than air, settles down on the ground. This makes PNG much safer than LPG.

Sakhalin Project of ONGC

232. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government raised the controversies over ONGC Sakhalin Project with the Russian Government during the recent visit of President Putin;

(b) if so, the details of such talks;

(c) the specific conclusions and gains and clarity for ONGC due to recent visit of Russian President;

(d) whether it is a fact that ONGC has been asked to reduce its stake in Sakhalin; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) During the visit of Russian President to India in January 2007, both sides acknowledged the potential of expanding cooperation in the oil and gas sector and agreed to further enhance direct dialogue between their oil and gas companies. On the sidelines of the visit, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Russian Rosneft oil company signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on setting up two joint working groups — one each for upstream and downstream activities.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

International Energy Conference, Petrotech-2007

233. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has proposed a multi-pronged strategy that includes